オレと彼女の萌えよペン

Chapter 5

ORIGINAL STORY: MURAKAMI RIN ARTIST: MORI MISAKI
ORIGINAL CHARACTER DESIGN: AKINA TSUKAKO

Adventures,

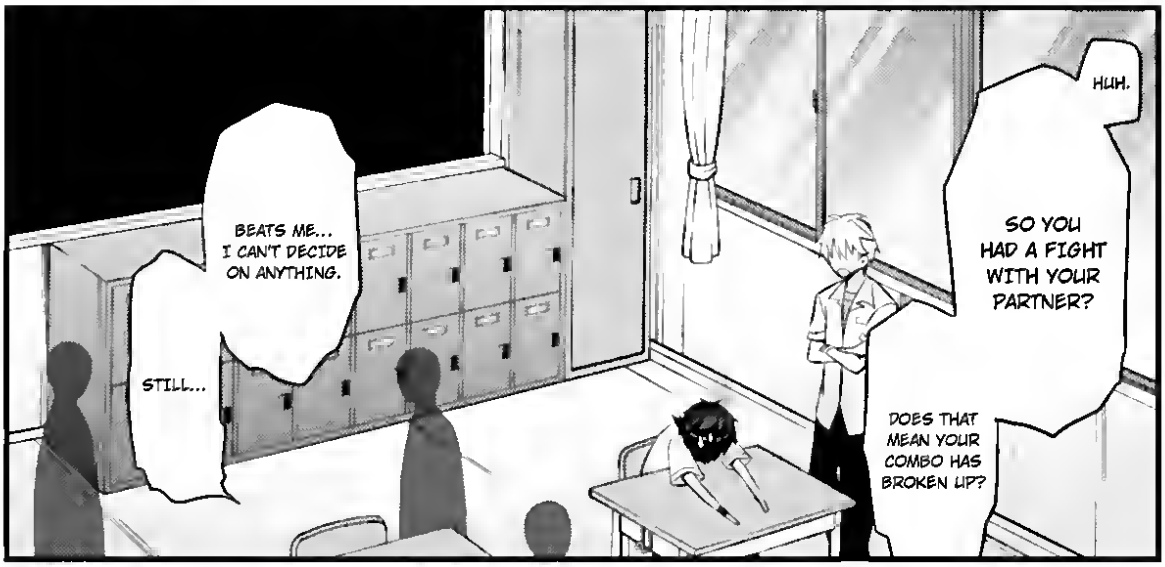
That is the strength of Sen's manga.

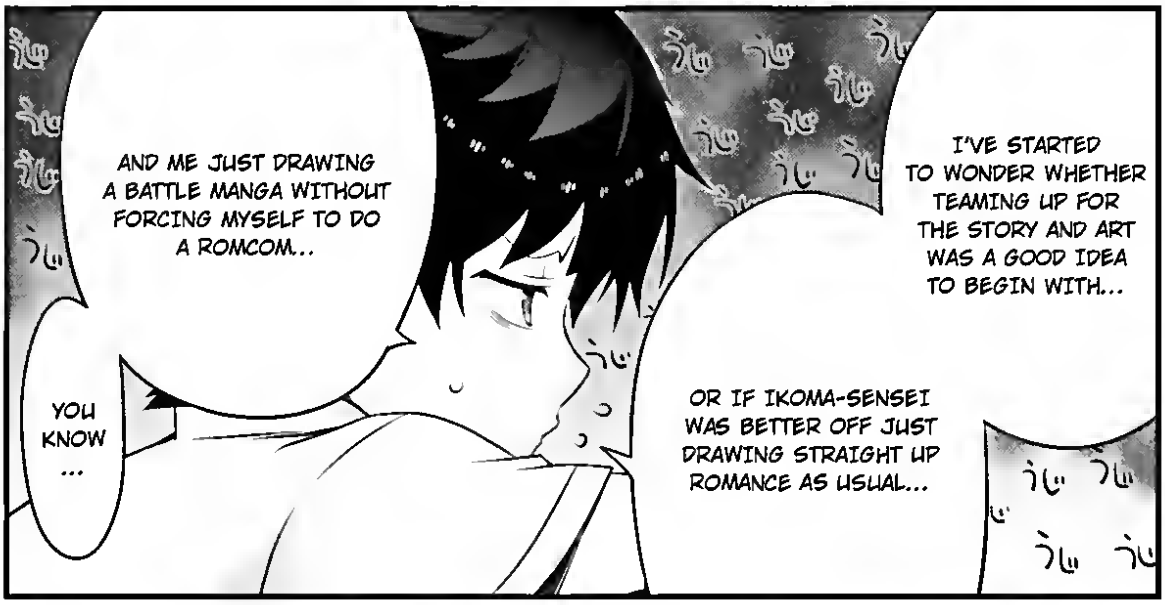
confrontations,

and hot-blooded passion.

WHA?!
IF YOU GET ALONG SO WELL. THEN JUST GO AND DRAW A MANGA TOGETHER!!
すぅ～ん…
パタン…
I'LL BE ALONE FOR A WHILE. I'VE GOT A LOT OF THINGS TO THINK ABOUT.
... NOW, I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL WELL ENOUGH IKOMA-SENSEI.

Ore to Kanojo no Moeyo Pen
STORY BY: HIDEAKI KAWAI
ART BY: HIROKI MIKAMI
CHAPTER 5
tl: Lyenaldh
pr: zaavyre
redraw: RST, kobe
3


HUH.
SO YOU HAD A FIGHT WITH YOUR PARTNER?
DOES THAT MEAN YOUR COMBO HAS BROKEN UP?
BEATS ME... I CAN'T DECIDE ON ANYTHING.
STILL...


I'VE STARTED TO WONDER WHETHER TEAMING UP FOR THE STORY AND ART WAS A GOOD IDEA TO BEGIN WITH...
AND ME JUST DRAWING A BATTLE MANGA WITHOUT FORCING MYSELF TO DO A ROMCOM...
OR IF IKOMA-SENSEI WAS BETTER OFF JUST DRAWING STRAIGHT UP ROMANCE AS USUAL...
YOU KNOW ...

WELL, I READ YOUR PARTNER'S SERIES, "YAMOME GIRL," JUST A WHILE AGO...
AND HONESTLY, I FOUND "I'M THE MASTER, YOU'RE THE SERVANT" MORE INTERESTING.

MY THOUGHTS ARE PRETTY MUDDLED RIGHT NOW...
HMM...
うおおお

NAH, I'VE ALSO READ YOUR ZOMBIE ONESHOT, AND TRUST ME, YOUR TEAM'S WORK WAS BETTER.
BUT... THAT'S JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE MORE INTO BATTLE MANGAS, ISN'T IT?
Yamome Girl was a romance after all
UH?! REALLY?!
YEP.
...!
IS... THAT SO...
SE...
KIMIJI-MA...!

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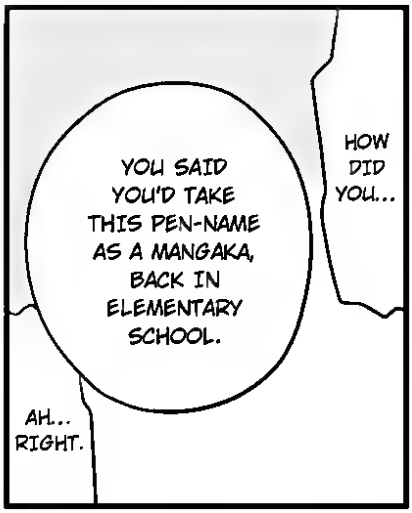
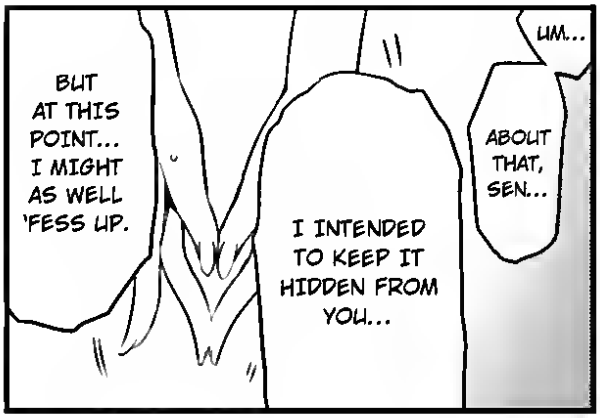
AND I WON-DERED...
IF IT COULD HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS... BY ANY CHANCE...
プリティードラゴン♥
10月号
20XX


HOW DID YOU...
YOU SAID YOU'D TAKE THIS PEN-NAME AS A MANGAKA, BACK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
AH... RIGHT.

KIRI-SHIMA RITO...
IT'S YOU, RIGHT, KIMIJI-MA?

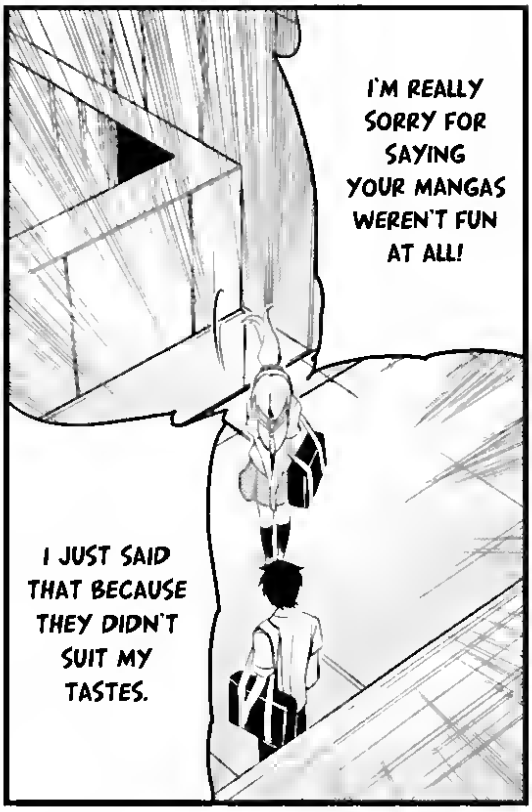
!!!
WHY DO YOU HAVE THAT MAGAZINE ..?!
パラパラ

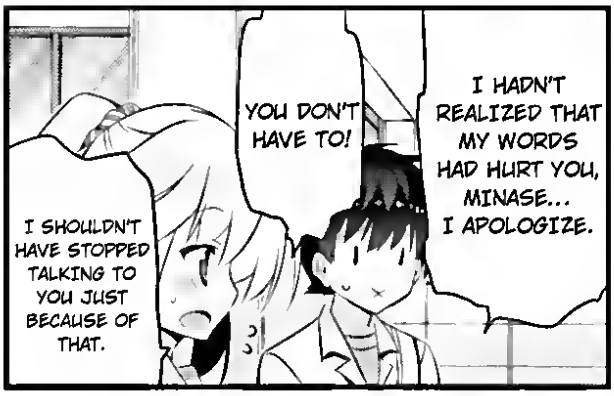

UM...
ABOUT THAT, SEN...
I INTENDED TO KEEP IT HIDDEN FROM YOU...
BUT AT THIS POINT... I MIGHT AS WELL 'FESS UP.

BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT PRETTY DRAGON?
...!

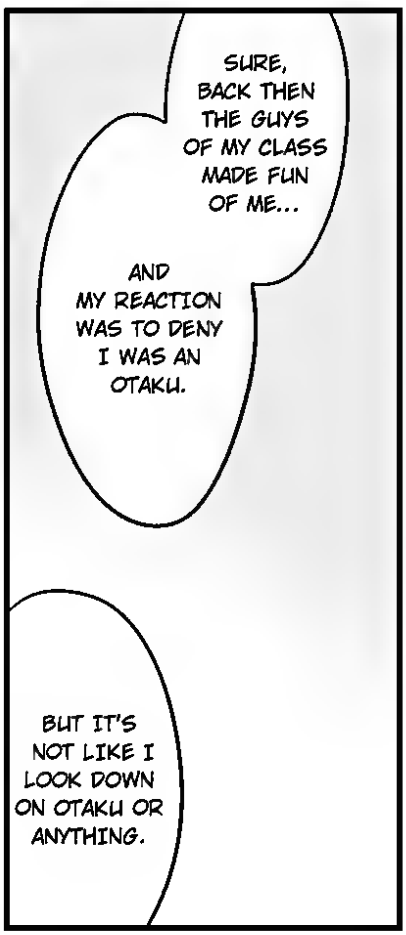
UH...?
SINCE YOU SAID "I'M NOT AN OTAKU!" SO STRONGLY BACK THEN, I THOUGHT YOU'D HATE ME OR SOMETHING...
ACTUALLY I AM... AN OTAKU, YOU SEE.
AND A SPIN-OFF OF A SERIES I LIKE IS PUBLISHED IN THIS MAGAZINE, SO...
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, MINASE LOOKS LIKE YOUR EVERYDAY MODERN STUDENT.
SHE LIKES TO DRESS UP AND IS PRETTY POPULAR.
YOU WOULDN'T THINK SHE'S AN OTAKU...
WHICH MEANS THAT'S THE REASON YOU'VE AVOIDED ME THE ENTIRE TIME?
YEAH...
I WAS AFRAID OF WHAT YOU'D THINK OF ME IF YOU FOUND OUT...

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE OF "PRECURE"...
BUT AT THAT TIME I WAS ALREADY A BIG FAN OF THE MOE GENRE...


I'M REALLY SORRY FOR SAYING YOUR MANGAS WEREN'T FUN AT ALL!
I JUST SAID THAT BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T SUIT MY TASTES.


I HADN'T REALIZED THAT MY WORDS HAD HURT YOU, MINASE... I APOLOGIZE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE STOPPED TALKING TO YOU JUST BECAUSE OF THAT.

YOU DON'T FIND ME REPULSIVE?!
REALLY?!


SURE, BACK THEN THE GUYS OF MY CLASS MADE FUN OF ME...
AND MY REACTION WAS TO DENY I WAS AN OTAKU.
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I LOOK DOWN ON OTAKU OR ANYTHING.

N... NO.
AND ANYWAY, SINCE I LIKE MANGA I'M KIND OF ONE MYSELF.

OH MY...
I HAD PREPARED MYSELF BEFORE CONFESSING, THINKING YOU'D BE DISGUSTED.
ほっ
THANK GOD, I'M SO RELIEVED NOW...
YOU... YOU REALLY DON'T HATE ME?!
EVEN THOUGH KNOWING I'M A FULL-FLEDGED OTAKU?!
ごごご
HUH?!
DON'T WORRY, I DON'T.
SO MANY THINGS HAPPENED WHEN I WASN'T LOOKING...
YOU TEAMED UP WITH A PRO MANGAKA...
YOU SUBMITTED A MANU-SCRIPT...
Haaah...
I'M REALLY GLAD YOU'RE STILL DRAWING, YOU KNOW!

... WELL.
I DID STOP DRAWING FOR A WHILE.
...! AND I GUESS IT WAS MY FAULT?
WHEN YOU DECLARED THAT YOU WERE DONE WITH DRAWING MANGA...
I WAS AFRAID YOU WOULD GIVE UP FOR GOOD.
BUT I CAN'T REALLY TELL HER THAT.
THE MAIN REASON WAS BECAUSE I WAS SHOCKED THAT MINASE HAD STARTED TO AVOID ME...
I CRITICIZED THEM HARSHLY AFTER ALL...
AH
... NO, IT WASN'T BECAUSE OF THAT.
ACTUALLY, SEN, EVEN IN HIGH SCHOOL I HESITATED SEVERAL TIMES, TRYING TO TALK TO YOU.
...HM?
AND EVEN BECAME A TRUE MANGAKA, THAT'S GREAT!
STILL, YOU STARTED TO DRAW AGAIN

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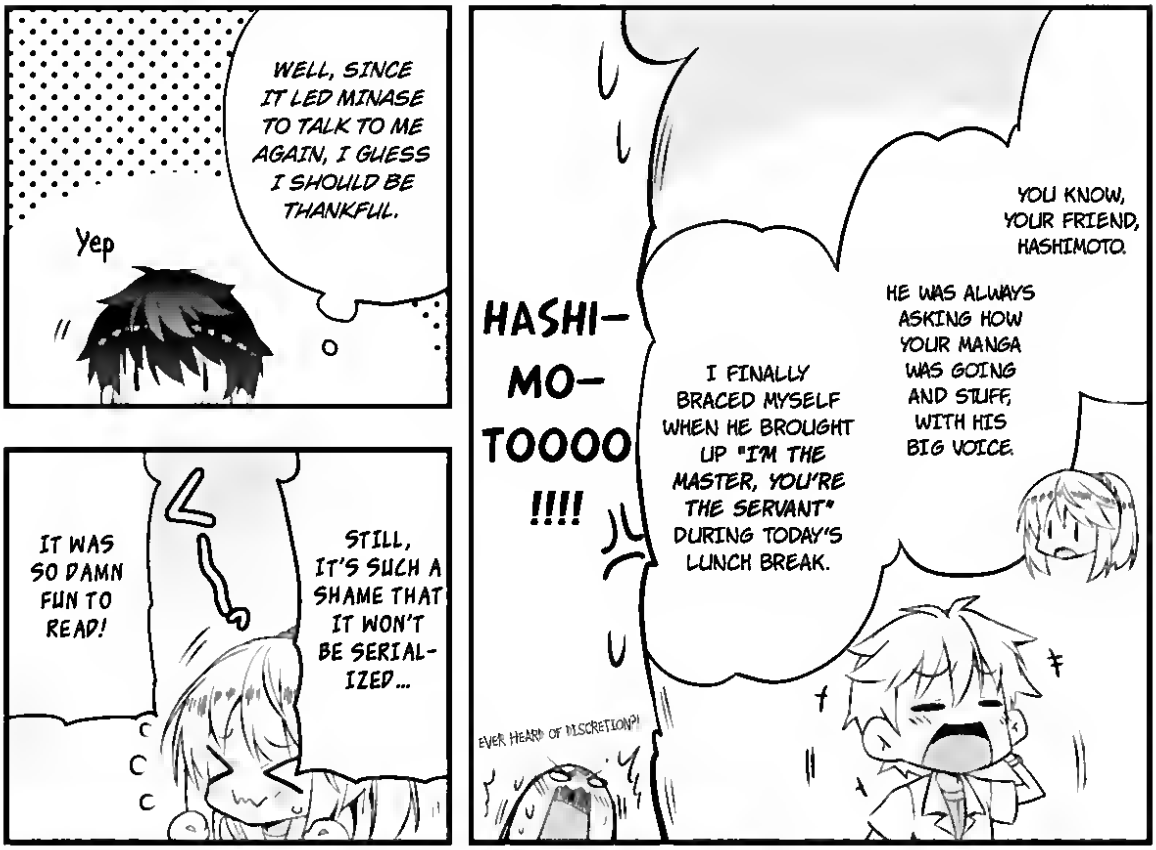
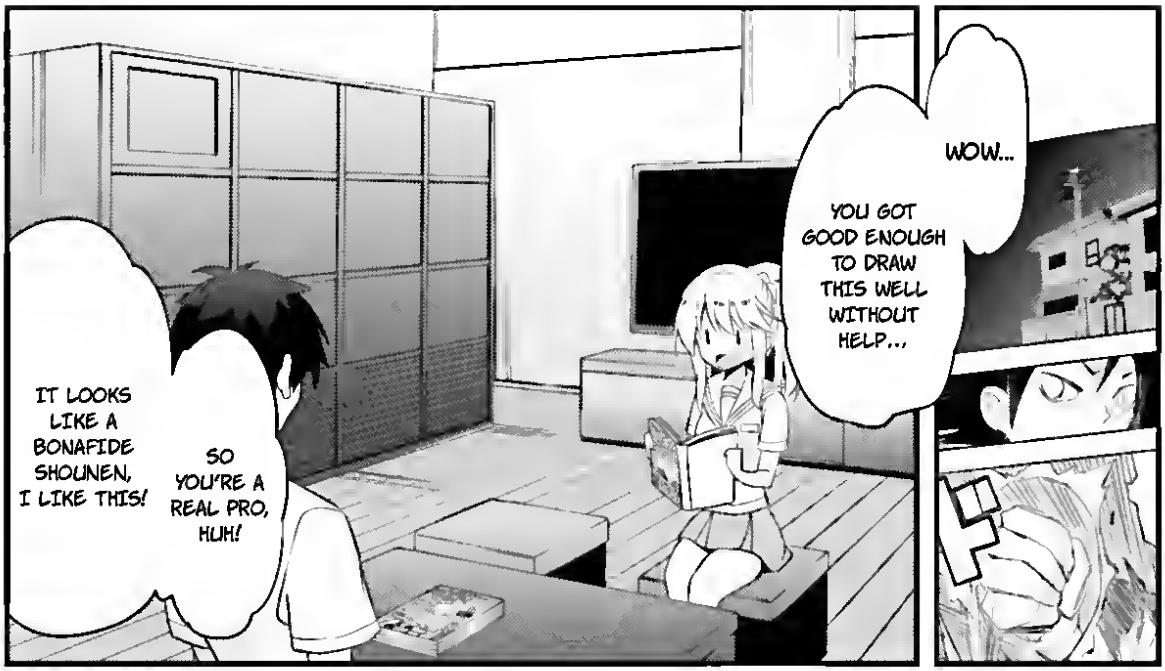
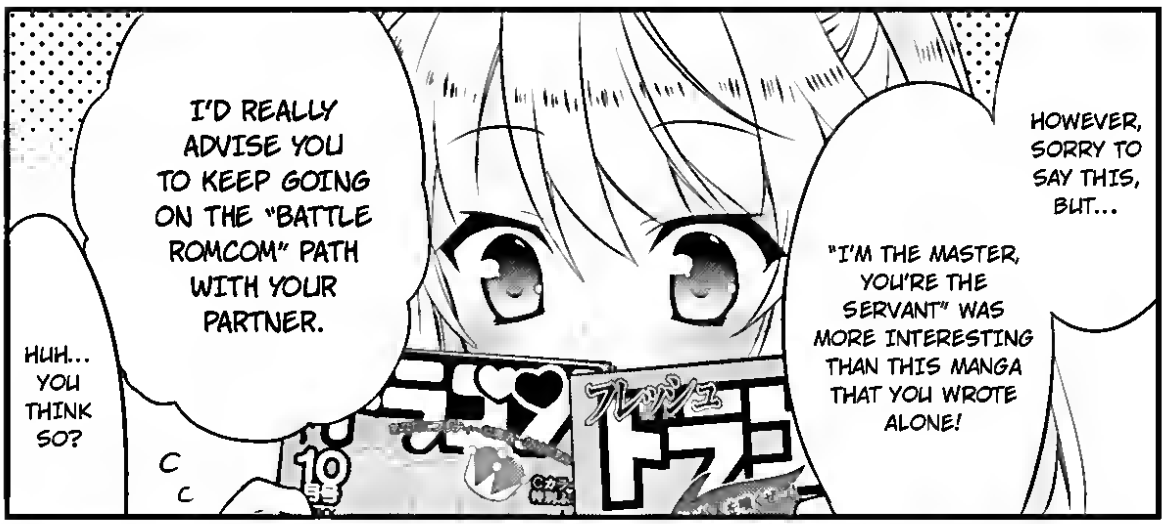


I SHOULD PROBABLY READ YOUR DEBUT WORK TO HAVE AN IDEA...
IN WHICH MAGAZINE WAS IT PUBLISHED?
OH... I HAVE IT AT HOME, IF YOU WANT.
HMM...
I HAVEN'T READ YOUR OTHER WORKS SO I CAN'T REALLY TELL...
BUT I WOULDN'T MIND IF YOU CONTINUED TOGETHER...
YOU DO?! THAT'S PERFECT!!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I CAME TO YOUR HOME!!
I'M COMING IN~
WAH, IT'S BEEN SO LONG! IT HASN'T CHANGED THAT MUCH!

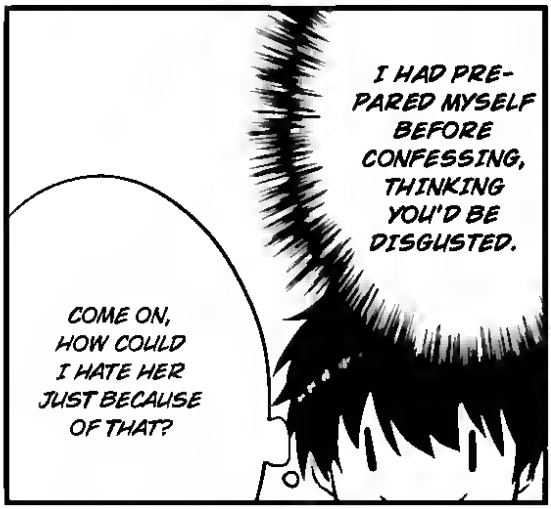
YEAH. OF COURSE YOU GREW UP, BUT YOUR LOOK HAS ALSO BECOME MORE REFINED AND MORE... SHOWY.
STILL, I WAS REALLY SURPRISED TO LEARN YOU WERE AN OTAKU.
YOU DON'T LOOK THE PART AT ALL.
YOU CHANGED QUITE A LOT SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO BOOT.
YOU THINK SO?
WELL, YOU COULD SAY I WAS INFLUENCED BY THE GIRLS AROUND ME...
There's that too...
AND SHE ALSO GREW UP WHERE IT COUNTS...
DO I STAND OUT THAT MUCH?
HUUUH?!
LET'S JUST SAY YOU LOOK LIKE YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND.
OR HAD TWO OR THREE.
SO SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY MALE FRIENDS...
That's unexpected...
I JUST MEANT THAT YOU SEEMED PRETTY POPULAR...
Are you calling me an attention whore?!
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT?!
I NEVER EVEN HAD ANY MALE FRIENDS OUTSIDE OF YOU!

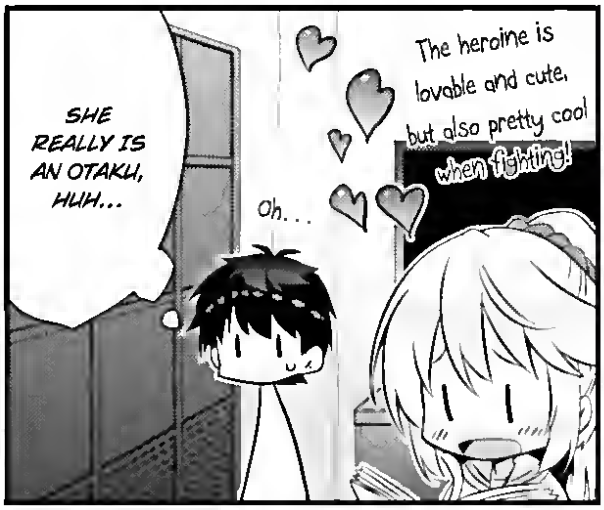

IT LOOKS LIKE A BONAFIDE SHOUNEN, I LIKE THIS!
SO YOU'RE A REAL PRO, HUH!
YOU GOT GOOD ENOUGH TO DRAW THIS WELL WITHOUT HELP...
WOW...

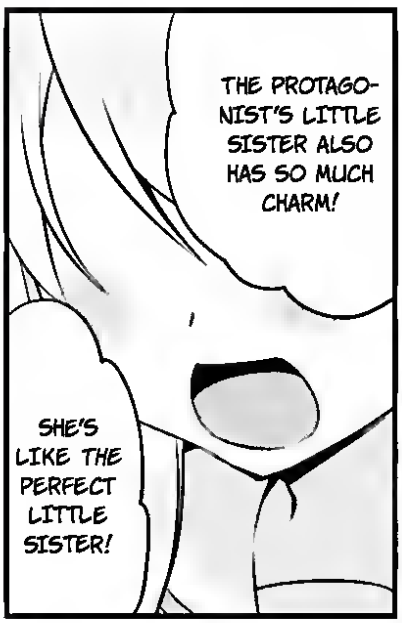

HUH... YOU THINK SO?
I'D REALLY ADVISE YOU TO KEEP GOING ON THE "BATTLE ROMCOM" PATH WITH YOUR PARTNER.
"I'M THE MASTER, YOU'RE THE SERVANT" WAS MORE INTERESTING THAN THIS MANGA THAT YOU WROTE ALONE!
HOWEVER, SORRY TO SAY THIS, BUT...

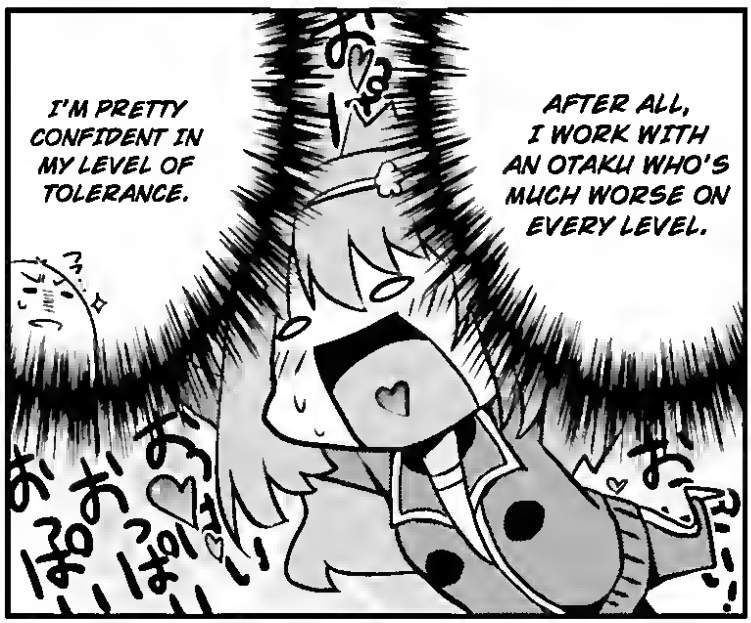
THE DRAWINGS ARE BEAUTIFUL, THE FIGHT SCENES ARE PRETTY COOL...
AND THE CHARACTERS DON'T LACK APPEAL EITHER...
OF COURSE, YOUR JOINT SERIES IS TOTALLY THE KIND I LIKE, BUT NOT ONLY THAT.
THAT MAY BE WHY...
OH, BUT...
YOU LIKE THE MOE GENRE, RIGHT, MINASE?

I'M NOT EXACTLY HAPPY THAT PEOPLE FIND MY PERSONAL WORK LESS INTERESTING THAN A COLLABORATION.
BUT I SURE AM HAPPY THAT THEY PRAISE THE WORK I DID WITH IKOMA-SENSEI.
I soo wanted to read more of it!
I SEE...
IT MYSTIFIES ME WHY IT DIDN'T GET MORE SUPPORT IN THE POLL!



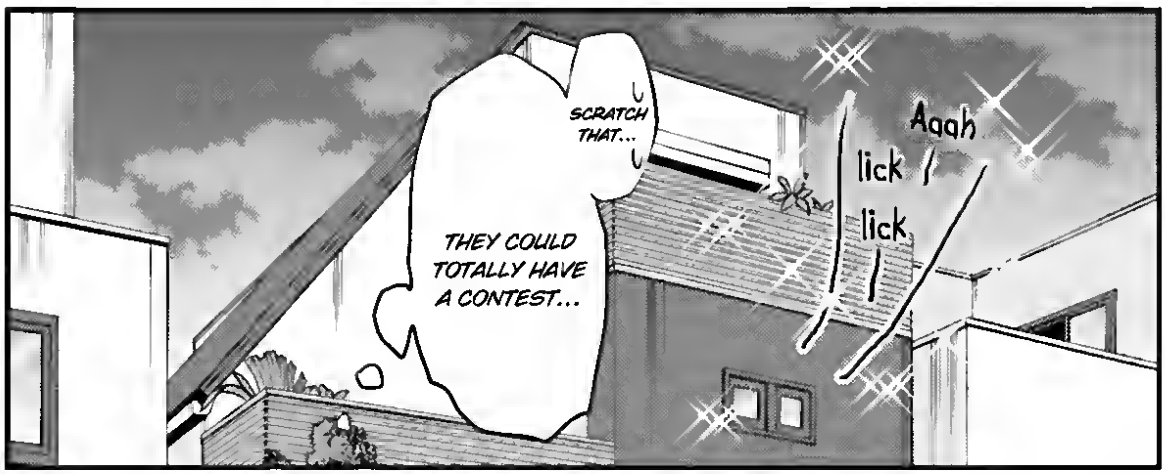






*ON BACKROUND - BEWBIES!

Loli + twin-tails might be a bit much but that's also part of her charm and in her few appearances she totally gives her share of fanservice! Aah such a pity if this had become a series she would have been popular and have a ton of doujinshis. hah. hah. I love little girls. lolis are the best I so want to lick a grade schooler!! Makes me wish I had a little sisteeer
Hah
Hah

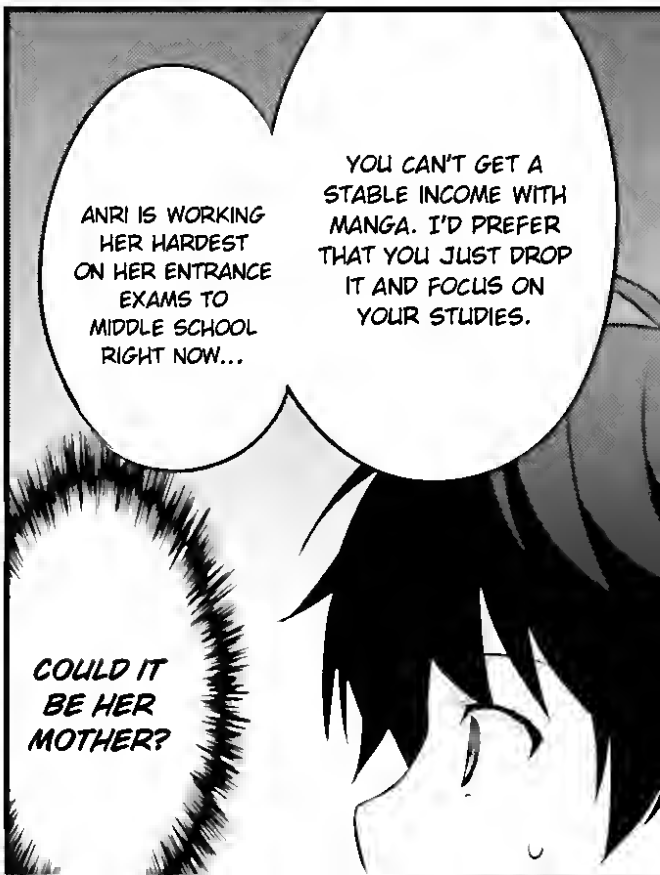

SCRATCH THAT...
THEY COULD TOTALLY HAVE A CONTEST...
Aagh
lick
lick

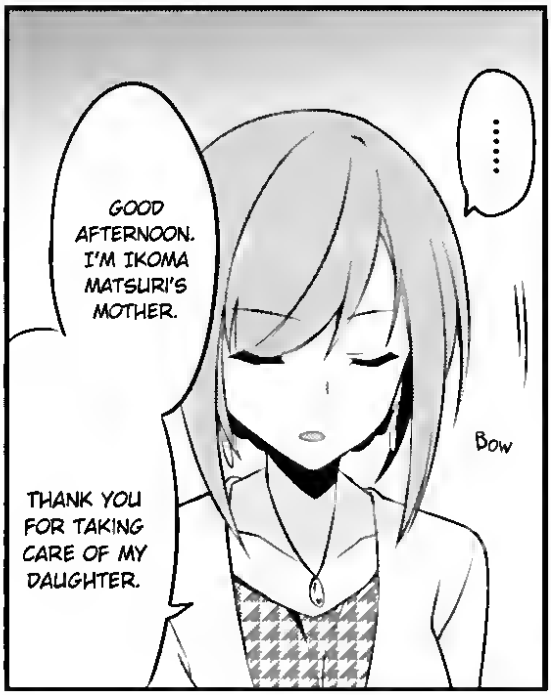
I WANT TO CHALLENGE THE "BATTLE ROMCOM" GENRE WITH HER ONCE MORE!
PURSUING THAT PATH IS THE BEST CHOICE AFTER ALL.
THAT'S RIGHT... IKOMA-SENSEI AND I CAN PERFORM BETTER BECAUSE WE WORK TOGETHER!
HOW ABOUT YOU GIVE UP ALREADY? THIS SIMPLY MEANS YOU WEREN'T CUT OUT FOR THAT.
IKOMA-SEN...

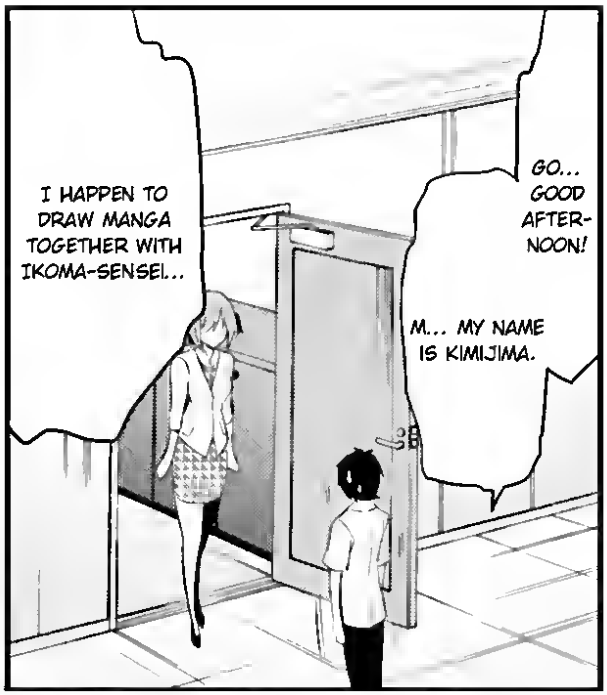
WHO IS TALKING? I DON'T KNOW HER...
I DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP YET...
PLEASE LET ME CONTINUE A BIT MORE.
... SHE'S TALKING WITH IKOMA-SENSEI?
THE SERIES YOU HAD STARTED WAS CANCELLED, AND YOUR NEW WORK WAS REJECTED TOO, RIGHT?
TO THINK YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED YOUR LESSON YET... YOU'RE REALLY A HANDFUL, UNLIKE ANRI.

OH...

WHY ARE YOU TWO SO DIFFERENT, REALLY?
TRY TO TAKE AN EXAMPLE FROM YOUR SISTER, FOR ONCE.
ガチャ


YOU CAN'T GET A STABLE INCOME WITH MANGA. I'D PREFER THAT YOU JUST DROP IT AND FOCUS ON YOUR STUDIES.
ANRI IS WORKING HER HARDEST ON HER ENTRANCE EXAMS TO MIDDLE SCHOOL RIGHT NOW...
COULD IT BE HER MOTHER?

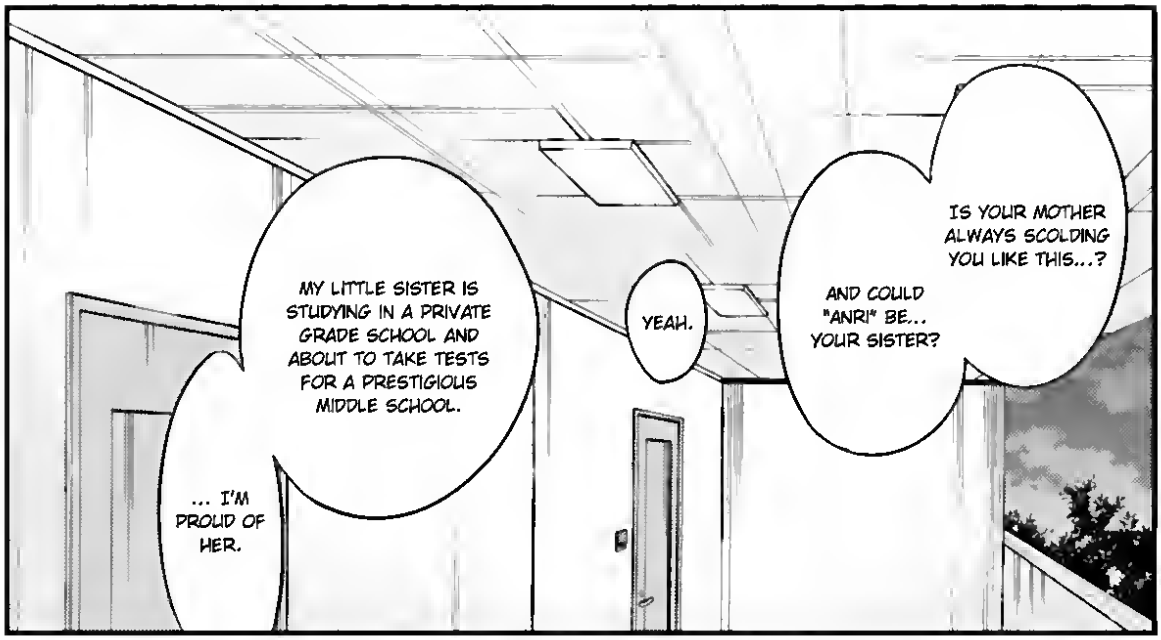

GOOD AFTERNOON. I'M IKOMA MATSURI'S MOTHER.
.....
Bow
THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF MY DAUGHTER.


I HAPPEN TO DRAW MANGA TOGETHER WITH IKOMA-SENSEI...
GO... GOOD AFTER-NOON!
M... MY NAME IS KIMIJIMA.

SEE YOU LATER, MATSURI.

!

WHAT DID YOU COME FOR?
SORRY... I HEARD YOUR CON-VERSATION.


IS YOUR MOTHER ALWAYS SCOLDING YOU LIKE THIS...?
AND COULD "ANRI" BE... YOUR SISTER?
YEAH.
MY LITTLE SISTER IS STUDYING IN A PRIVATE GRADE SCHOOL AND ABOUT TO TAKE TESTS FOR A PRESTIGIOUS MIDDLE SCHOOL.
... I'M PROUD OF HER.

SO WHAT IF SHE DOES!
OR CONSTANTLY COMPARING YOU TO YOUR SISTER..

I SEE...
SAYING THAT YOU CAN'T MAKE A LIVING WITH MANGA...
STILL, I KEPT MY MOUTH SHUT, BUT WASN'T SHE WAY TOO HARSH?

MOM IS TOTALLY RIGHT!!
DON'T TRY TO BADMOUTH HER WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!!
SENSEI ...

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A GOOD-FOR-NOTHING...
I NEVER DID ANYTHING RIGHT...
AND ALWAYS LET MY MOTHER DOWN.
COMPARED TO MY SISTER, I'M WORTH BARELY MORE THAN A PIECE OF TRASH!

SHE MUST HAVE SUFFERED FROM THE COMPARISON WITH HER SISTER SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD...
AND YET SHE DID HER BEST TO HANDLE BOTH DRAWING AND STUDYING.
HOW MUCH EFFORT MUST YOU HAD PUT IN... TO PUBLISH A MANGA WHILE GOING TO A HIGH-LEVEL SCHOOL...?

AND NOW I'M EVEN FAILING AT MANGAS, THE ONLY THING I TOOK PRIDE IN.
IT MIGHT BE TIME FOR ME TO THROW IN THE TOWEL, AFTER ALL...

ABSO-
LUTELY
NOT!!

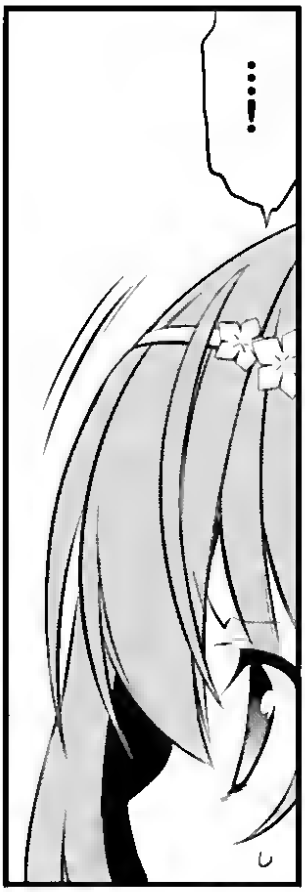
AND REALLY. HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU THINK GET SERIALIZED AT YOUR AGE?!
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU'RE MADE FOR THIS!
YOUR TALENT JUMPED AT ME AS SOON AS I STARTED READING YOUR MANGA...
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT I ACTUALLY LIKED A ROMANCE SERIES!!

KIMIJI-
MA...

I'M SORRY FOR LEAVING YOU ALONE WHEN YOU WERE HURT AND NEEDED SUPPORT.

PLEASE, DON'T SAY THAT YOU'RE GONNA STOP.
I CAME BACK HERE TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU.

AND AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED...


...!

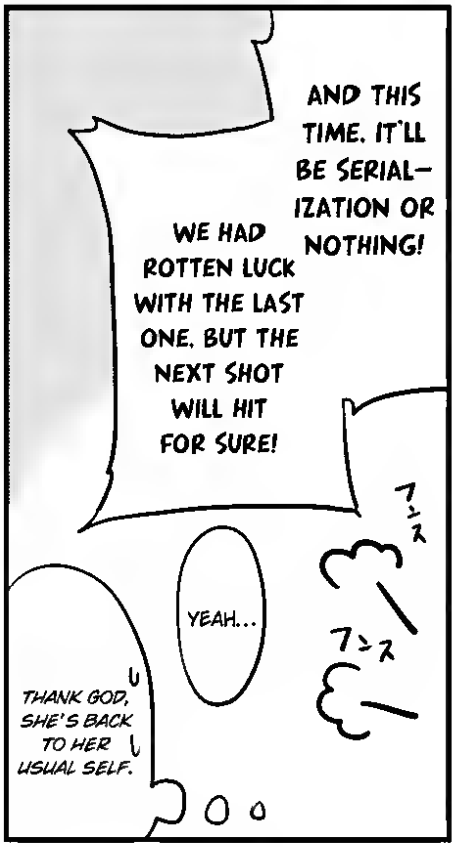
I'VE THOUGHT A LOT ABOUT IT...
WHETHER WE SHOULD KEEP ON DRAWING MANGA TOGETHER..
OR PART WAYS AND FOCUS ON OUR SPECIALITIES FOR OUR OWN GOOD.

I REALLY WANT TO AIM FOR SERIALIZATION ALONG WITH YOU!

I'LL STUDY ROMCOMS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, AND DO MY BEST IN IMPROVING MY DRAWING SKILLS.
I PROMISE THAT I'LL WORK EVEN HARDER THAN BEFORE.
WILL YOU ACCEPT TEAMING UP WITH ME ONCE MORE?!
Hmpf!

I DON'T MIND WALKING ALONG WITH YOU A LITTLE LONGER!!
BRING IT ON!

COME IN!
OKAY, TIME TO THINK UP A NEW PLOT!


AND THIS TIME. IT'LL BE SERIAL-IZATION OR NOTHING!
WE HAD ROTTEN LUCK WITH THE LAST ONE. BUT THE NEXT SHOT WILL HIT FOR SURE!
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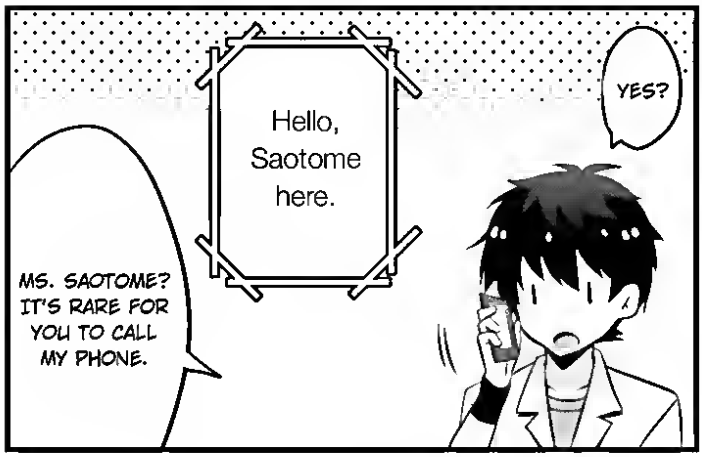
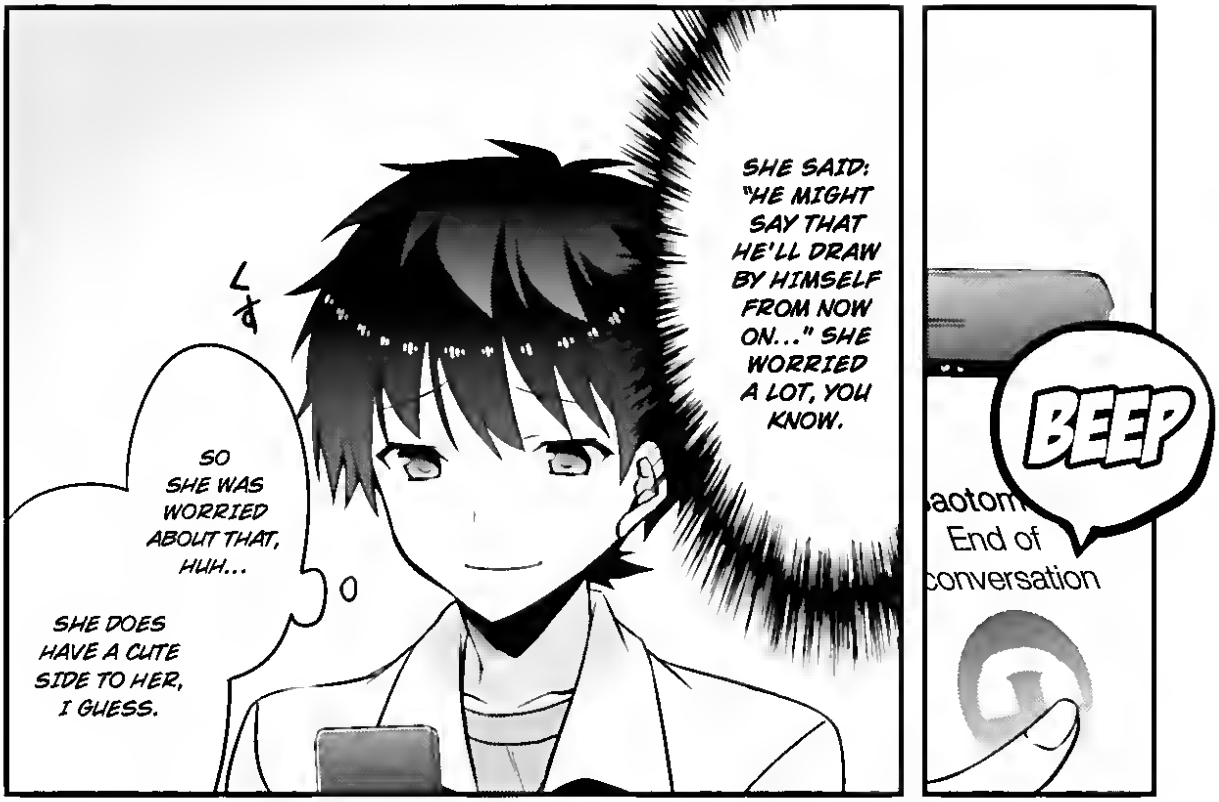
YEAH...
THANK GOD, SHE'S BACK TO HER USUAL SELF.


Hello, Saotome here.
YES?
MS. SAOTOME? IT'S RARE FOR YOU TO CALL MY PHONE.

WHEN SHE'S DEPRESSED, SHE DOESN'T DO IT HALFWAY...
OF COURSE, HAVING YOUR MANUSCRIPT REJECTED AFFECTED HER QUITE A BIT.
BUT I THINK THAT IT'S HER FIGHT WITH YOU THAT MADE HER SO DOWN BEATEN, MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE.
DID YOU MAKE UP WITH MS. IKOMA?
Uh? Oh, so you knew we had a fight...
YES, SHE TALKED TO ME ABOUT IT YESTERDAY.

DAMN...
That girl doesn't know how to be honest, so you're bound to clash at times.
But I'd be glad if you understood her real feelings.
WHA AAAT?!
She said "Kimijima really chewed me out
And with the skill he has, he might say that he'll draw by himself from now on..."
She really said that?!
She was worried a lot you know.

Is that so? Now I'm relieved~
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
ACTUALLY, WE MADE UP JUST A MINUTE AGO!
SO I'D REALLY LIKE TO SEE YOU WORK TOGETHER AGAIN.
IT DIDN'T DESERVE TO DO SO POORLY AT THE POLL IF YOU ASK ME.
"I'M THE MASTER, YOU'RE THE SERVANT" WAS REALLY A FUN READ.
But let's meet soon to talk things out!
YES!
Telling you to get serialized right away... might have been a little too much.
I may be overly negative during our meetings, but that's because I expect a lot from you two!

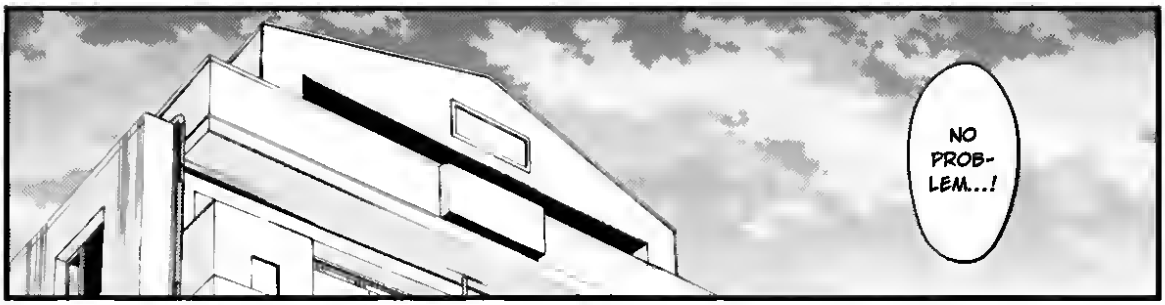

SHE SAID: "HE MIGHT SAY THAT HE'LL DRAW BY HIMSELF FROM NOW ON..." SHE WORRIED A LOT, YOU KNOW.
SO SHE WAS WORRIED ABOUT THAT, HUH...
SHE DOES HAVE A CUTE SIDE TO HER, I GUESS.
BEEP
End of conversation

I...
I TOO WENT OVERBOARD, LAST TIME.
AND...
ALSO...!

IF ONLY SHE COULD SHOW IT TO ME A LITTLE MORE.
KIMIJIMA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
NOTHING.

YOU KNOW, KIMIJIMA...

TH-
THANKS FOR COMING HERE AGAIN...


NO PROB-LEM...!